

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Hiroki YAMAUCHI, et al. :
Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:
Filed: December 20, 2001 : Examiner:
For: DATABASE MANAGEMENT DEVICE, DATABASE MANAGEMENT METHOD
AND STORAGE MEDIUM THEREFOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

10. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6, which comprising:
relevant information adding means for adding the relevant information associated with the data
each other to both or either one of a specific data of which effective period expires and/or the
following data corresponding to the specific data.

Docket No.: 50023-161

12. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6, which comprising:
searching order management means for setting the searching order of the following data in front
of the data corresponding to the following data.

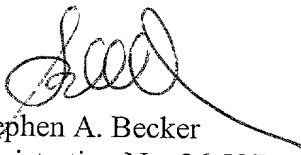
13. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6, which further
comprising: searching frequency monitoring means for monitoring the searching frequency of
the following data and the data corresponding to the following data; and the searching order
management means changes the searching orders of the specific data and the following data
according to the searching frequency.

REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple dependency of claims 10,12 and 13 to avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee. Attached is a marked-up version of the claims as amended. Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6 [or claim 9], which comprising:

relevant information adding means for adding the relevant information associated with the data each other to both or either one of a specific data of which effective period expires and/or the following data corresponding to the specific data.
12. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6 [or claim 9], which comprising: searching order management means for setting the searching order of the following data in front of the data corresponding to the following data.
13. (Amended) A database management device according to claim 6 [or claim 9], which further comprising: searching frequency monitoring means for monitoring the searching frequency of the following data and the data corresponding to the following data; and the searching order management means changes the searching orders of the specific data and the following data according to the searching frequency.